5

CLAIMS

- Connecting device (1) for an electrosurgical instrument, 1. 10 which comprises at least one gas supply line (5) and one power supply line (6), characterized by a housing (2) into which passes the gas supply line (5) with the power supply line (6) disposed therein, a branching device (7) in the housing (2), by way of which 15 the power supply line (6) is diverted out of the gas supply line (5) in order to form a gas-connection end piece (9) and a power-connection end piece (8), and a plug (4) to which the gas-connection end piece (9) 20 and the power-connection end piece (8) are coupled, and which is fixed to the housing (2) in order to make connection with a socket in an appliance or with connecting leads running to the appliance, wherein a filter (10) is disposed within the housing (2) in 25 the gas-connection end piece (9).
 - Connecting device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the filter is exchangeable.
- 3. Connecting device according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the branching device (7) comprises a first aperture (11) into which the gas supply line (5) with the power supply line (6) disposed therein is inserted, like a plug into a socket.

- 4. Connecting device according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the branching device (7) comprises a second aperture (12) into which the filter (10) is inserted, like a plug into a socket.
- 5 5. Connecting device according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the branching device (7) comprises an integrated cable channel (13) to accommodate the power supply line (6).
- 6. Connecting device according to one of the preceding claims,
 10 characterized in that the electrosurgical instrument is
 designed for single use.
 - 7. Application of a connecting device according to one of the preceding claims, for an APC instrument.
- 8. Application according to Claim 7,
 15 characterized in that the APC instrument is an APC probe
 (3).